

CHAPTER 9

SECTION 5.2

ELIGIBILITY OF NATO FAMILY MEMBERS FOR BASIC PROGRAM BENEFITS

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I. ISSUE

Limits of coverage for family members of foreign force members under the Basic Program.

II. BACKGROUND

This section continues coverage, on an outpatient basis only, for family members of active duty members of the Armed Forces of the foreign nations who are stationed in, or passing through, the United States in an official capacity. This includes both the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Partnership for Peace (PFP) nations.

III. POLICY

Under the terms of the NATO and the PFP Status of Forces Agreements, the United States has agreed to furnish medical and dental care to eligible family members of active duty members of the Armed Forces of the foreign NATO and PFP Nations who are stationed in or passing through the United States if in connection with official duties. TRICARE Standard/CHAMPUS coverage for NATO and PFP family members is limited to outpatient services only. (See [Chapter 7, Section 9.1](#) for cost-sharing guidelines regarding ambulatory surgery.) "Passing through" does not include vacation travel within or through the United States for a NATO or PFP member or his family members when the travel is unofficial, nor does it apply to a delay enroute when the NATO or PFP member is passing through the United States from one overseas point to another. The NATO or PFP member and his eligible family members must be invitees of a specific United States Government agency, and must be in the United States on official business. A NATO or PFP family member who lives in the NATO or PFP member's home country and who comes to the United States to visit the NATO or PFP member is not eligible for TRICARE Standard/CHAMPUS. Family members of NATO and PFP members have no eligibility outside the United States. (See [Chapter 9, Section 1.1B](#), concerning former spouses.)

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